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MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEBATES

FIFTH SESSION OF THE SECOND LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY UNDER THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ACT, 1935.

24th, 25th, 27th and 28th September and 18th to 23rd, 25th and 26th October 1948.

Volume XVI (Nos. 1 to 12).

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THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Tuesday, the 28th September 1948.

The House met in the Assembly Chamber, Fort St. George, at eleven of the clock, Mr. Speaker (THE HON. SRI J. SIVASHANMUKHAM PILLAI) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Anti-Hindi propaganda by Tamil Pandits.

* 392-A *Q.*—SRI S. PARAMANANDA RAYAR: Will the Hon. Minister for Education be pleased to state whether it has been brought to the notice of the Government of any Tamil Pandit who has discouraged the study of Hindi by openly making propaganda?

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"It has been brought to the notice of Government that Tamil Pandits in certain institutions have been making propaganda against Hindi. The Director of Public Instruction has been asked to take suitable action in the matter."

SRI S. PARAMANANDA RAYAR:—"In view of the answer will the Government take disciplinary action against the counter-propagandists in case the charge is proved?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"If such cases are brought to the notice of the Government and if there were to be proper evidence the Government will certainly take action."

SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI:—"In view of the fact that intensive propaganda against Hindi is being carried on amongst boys and girls in schools will the Government send a circular to the heads of the institutions to send a report about the nature of propaganda and the remedy for it?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"The Government are looking into the matter. If, however, the hon. Member has any fact which he could prove and put before the Government, necessary action will be taken."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Are not the Government servants and others entitled to have any opinion they like on the question?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"They are entitled to have their opinion before the orders are passed. But when orders are issued they cannot carry on propaganda against it."

SRI V. RAGHAVAYYA:—"It is just possible that the concerned Tamil Pandits might have been misled by interested parties. It will be fair if the Government give them a chance by sending out a warning not to take part in such anti-propaganda."

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"This question and the answer will be published in the Press and it will be a sufficient warning."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAY:—"May I know, Sir, if this agitation is being carried on in one particular district or throughout the Tamilnad?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Instances of one or two institutions have been brought to the notice of the Government and more than that I am unable to say."

SRI KALLUR SUBBA RAO:—"May I know from the Hon. Minister whether he has found the reasons why the Tamilians have a hatred for Hindi?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"It is wrong to say that the Tamilians have any hatred towards any body. A few interested persons are making anti-Hindi propaganda and some people fall victims to these prejudices."

SRI A. SUBRAHMANIYAM:—"இரண்டாவது பாஷைகள் என்று பல பாஷைகள் இருக்கின்றன. அதில் ஹிந்தியும் ஒன்றாக இருக்கிறது. அந்த இரண்டாவது பாஷைகளில் ஒன்றை படிக்க வேண்டுமென்று உபாத்தியாயரைக் கேட்டுக்கொண்டுதான் படிக்க வேண்டுமென்று எதாவது விதி இருக்கிறதா என்று கேட்கிறேன்."

MR. SPEAKER:—"இங்கே இருக்கும் கேள்வி என்னவென்றால் தமிழ் பண்டிதர்கள் ஹிந்திக்கு விரோதமாக பிரசாரம் செய்தார்களா என்பது என்னென்ன படிக்கவேண்டுமென்பதும், என்னென்ன படிக்கக் கூடாது என்பதும் அதில் வராது."

SRI A. SUBRAHMANIYAM:—"Sir, நான் கேட்பது ஹிந்தியை படிப்பதற்கு வற்புறுத்துவதற்கு எதாவது விதி இருக்கிறதா என்றும் உபாத்தியாயர்கள் பிள்ளைகளை வற்புறுத்தி படிக்கவேண்டுமென்று சொல்ல எதாவது விதி இருக்கிறதா என்பது?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"The question does not strictly arise from the main question. But if the hon. Member wants to have the matter cleared he should put a separate question."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Are the Government aware that there is no anti-Hindi agitation in Andhradesa and if it exists in Tamil Nadu what is it due to?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"Again this question is about agitation."

SRI A. SUBRAHMANIYAM:—"Sir, கனம் கல்வி மந்திரி அவர்களைக் கேட்கிறேன். இப்பொழுது இரண்டாவது பாஷைகளில் பல பாஷைகள் இருக்கின்றன. அதில் ஒன்றை படிக்க பெற்றோர்களுடையவும் மாணவர்களுடையவும் இஷ்டத்திற்கு விடப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. அவர்கள் எதை விரும்புகிறார்களோ அதை படிக்கவேண்டுமென்றிருக்கிறது. அப்படி படிக்கும் போது உபாத்தியாயர்களை மாணவர்களும் பெற்றோர்களும் கேட்டுத்தான் படிக்கவேண்டுமென்று எதாவது விதி இருக்கிறதா என்று கேட்கிறேன்."

28th September 1948]

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"இது விஷயமாக மாணவர்களும் பெற்றோர்களும் எந்த பாஷையை படிக்கவேண்டுமென்று விரும்புகிறார்களோ அதையே படிக்கலாம்."

Number of Muslims arrested in Guntur district.

* 393 *Q.*—MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Premier be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of Muslims who have been arrested in the Guntur district in the month of June 1948 without arrest warrants; and

(*b*) whether it is a fact that the persons who were arrested without arrest warrants were kept in sub-jails for more than fourteen days?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI (on behalf of the Hon. the Premier):—"(*a*) 121.

"(*b*) Fifty-seven persons were continued in remand after fourteen days, by virtue of orders under section 344, Criminal Procedure Code."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Are the Government aware, Sir, that such a large number of arrests under section 151—arrest without warrant being issued—have been made and if so, is it proper to arrest without an arrest warrant on such a large scale?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Ordinarily this is not so, Sir."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"In view of the improved situation alround, may I know whether there will be large releases of Muslims who have been arrested in Madras?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"All persons arrested after our defence forces marched into Hyderabad, are being released. The cases prior to that event are being considered."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I know if some of the people arrested in other districts are being asked to confine themselves to specific areas?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Since the situation is still not quite clear they have been confined to their home towns."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"May I know the procedure the Government are contemplating to adopt in the case of detenus prior to the marching of the Indian Army into Hyderabad?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"When we are sure that the situation is clear without any unforeseen trouble from any quarter then certainly we will consider those cases favourably."

21st October 1948]

Teaching of the National language in High Schools and Colleges.

*448 *Q.*—Sri A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Central Advisory Board of Education has recommended that provision should be made for the teaching of the National language in all the classes of the high schools and colleges; and

(*b*) if so, what steps the Government propose to take to implement that recommendation?

The Hon. Sri T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"(*a*) The committee on medium of instruction constituted by the Government of India has recommended that the teaching of the national language should be started at the end of the junior basic stage and should be compulsory throughout the pre-secondary or middle school stage, but may be optional thereafter and that facilities for instruction in the language for students who wish to take it should be made by all Indian Universities.

"(*b*) In respect of colleges, the matter has been referred to the Universities for consideration. In regard to middle schools, the Government are of opinion that in view of the opportunities that have to be given for those who want to study Sanskrit or any other Indian language, it is not advisable to make Hindustani compulsory."

Sri A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—"Will the Hon. the Minister be pleased to state why the Government have not taken any steps to introduce Hindustani in the several high schools and colleges compulsorily in spite of the recommendations of the Central Advisory Board of Education?"

The Hon. Sri T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"The hon. Member's presumption is not correct. Even they do not say that it should be made compulsory in high schools and colleges."

Raja Sir MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR of Chettinad:—"If, as the Hon. Minister says, the Government of India do not say that it is compulsory to have the medium of instruction in high schools and colleges in the national language, would the Hon. Minister consider the desirability of not insisting on universities and colleges in this Province to resort to the medium of instruction in one of the Indian languages, in view of the fact that these colleges and universities have been built up during the last six or seven decades through the medium of English language which has been of great advantage to the nation all these years?"

The Hon. Sri T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"This question does not arise from the original question. While the original question relates to the provision to be

made for the teaching of national language in all the classes of the high schools and colleges, this question refers to the medium of instruction. These are two different things."

RAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg leave to point out that though it is slightly different, the two questions are very much alike. Sir, since the question of compulsion has come, might we not take this opportunity through your kindness to elicit information from the Government on this vital question concerning the education in this country? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" Certainly the hon. Member has the right to elicit information. If he puts a separate question, I am prepared to place the information before the House."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAY:—" Sir, when the Central Advisory Board has made provision for a national language, may I know whether that body has given any financial or other facilities for such of the communities that are very low and who could not take part in this nationalization of language? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" The Central Advisory Board has never made any commitments to anybody."

RAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—" Will the Hon. Minister for Education take an early opportunity of taking this House into confidence by having a full debate on the question of the medium of instruction in colleges and universities in this Province? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" When the Reorganization Scheme of the Madras Government is considered by this House, hon. Members will have an opportunity of discussing this point."

RAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—" I want to know when it will be considered."

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"That depends upon the time allotted by the Leader of the House for this purpose."

RAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—" The Hon. Minister has put the onus on the Leader of the House regarding the allotment of time. May I appeal to the Leader of the House to announce a date as early as possible for such a debate on this matter because it has been engaging the attention of the public and great concern has been felt by the parent public in this country and they feel, Sir, that a great harm will be done to these young men in this country by insisting on the medium of instruction to be in any one of the Indian languages in the universities and colleges of this Province? "

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THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I think, Sir, a pamphlet was distributed on this subject to all hon. Members and we shall certainly give an opportunity of discussing that report, if not in this session, at least in the next session."

RAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"We have not received that pamphlet."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Sir, a full pamphlet was printed and circulated to all the hon. Members, and we shall certainly give an early opportunity to discuss the entire report, if not in this session, at least in the next session." 11-45 a.m.

RAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"Sir, we are not aware of any pamphlet."

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Sir, a pamphlet has been printed and has been ordered by the Government Press to be distributed to all the hon. Members of this House. If it has not yet been received, probably it will be received to-day or to-morrow. Let us not make any point about it, as to why it has not yet been received. I have already sent notice that the matter may be taken into consideration by this House. I am sure the Hon. the Leader of the House will allot a day for it, and the House will have full time to consider the matter.

"I would also like to clear one misunderstanding, which has arisen out of the question of my hon. Friend opposite. Nobody has been compelled to adopt the medium of the regional languages in the Universities as yet. A conference of the Vice-Chancellors of the Universities and the Ministers of the Provinces met, and afterwards there was a meeting of the Vice-Chancellors, and that body recommended that in the course of five years, the medium of instruction may be changed in the Universities to be the regional languages, and so there has been no compulsion upon any University as yet. Hence the question of my hon. Friend is not quite correct."

Alleged misuse of petrol by B. Muniappa Gounder Bus Service, Coimbatore.

* 449 *Q.*—MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that a bus company called B. Muniappa Gounder Service, at Coimbatore, was receiving petrol rations for two buses for over a year though these vehicles had gas plants fitted to them;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that there was an enquiry in respect of these two buses, MDC 3319 and 3181, by the Police;

(*c*) if so, what the results were;

23rd October 1948]

Scale of pay of Hindusthani Pandits.

* 468 *Q.*—MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member who put the question is not in his place. The answer will be printed in the Proceedings."

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Hindusthani pandits who have passed the Vidwan examinations in Hindi are not given the same scale of pay as Vidwans in other languages; and if so, why?

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Yes. The question of granting to Hindusthani teachers the revised scales of pay fixed for pandits in other languages is under the consideration of Government."

The Zamindari legislation.

* 469 *Q.*—SRI K. LINGA RAJU (on behalf of Sri V. Raghavayya): Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that this Government received instructions from a higher authority asking them not to proceed with the Zamindari legislation; and

(*b*) whether he noticed a press statement from Calcutta United Press of India to this effect?

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"(*a*) The Government of India, Ministry of Finance, suggested that there should be consultation between them and the Madras Government regarding the financial implications of the Zamindari Abolition Bill. The Madras Government have agreed to consult the Central Government in the matter but have considered it unnecessary to postpone the consideration of the Bill.

"(*b*) Yes. I have seen the statement referred to."

[*Note.*—**An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.**] 12 noon.

GOVERNMENT BILLS.

II.—THE MADRAS WEIGHTS AND MEASURES BILL, 1947 (L.C. BILL No. 2 OF 1948)—*cont.*

* SRI K. BHASHYAM:—"Sir, this measure is a beneficial one and I do not think there can be any question on the principle of it or any objection to the Bill. I am glad to see also that Government have taken powers to extend the Act from time to time to various portions of this Province, because extending the Act to all places at once may create some hardship in rural areas where various other measures and weights are used. To that extent it is all right. There are certain points to which I would like to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister. Under clauses 10 and 11 any person duly authorized or not authorized, if he stamps

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Some questions were asked whether two buses were missing. I had said no. Later this question was put, we referred it to the Provincial Transport Commissioner and we got a definite answer that no bus is missing."

Anti-Hindi propaganda by Government teachers.

*474 *Q.*—SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any teachers from Government Schools are taking part in anti-Hindi movement; and

(*b*) what action the Government propose to take against them?

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—

"(*a*) No.

"(*b*) Does not arise."

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—"May I know whether it is a fact that some of those who are working in aided institutions are taking part in the anti-Hindi agitation and if so, what action Government propose to take against them?"

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"This question relates to Government schools, and so the question is not in order."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I rule it out of order."

The Report of the Retrenchment and Reorganization Committee.

*475 *Q.*—MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Government have decided not to implement the recommendations of the Retrenchment and Reorganization Committee?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"No. The practice of the Committee has been to communicate its recommendations, from time to time, to the Government for necessary action, with a view to avoid delay. Some of the recommendations have thus already been considered by the Government and orders passed and the rest are still under the consideration of the Government."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know whether the Leader of the House remembers a promise given to this House that he will allow discussion before the recommendations are implemented?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I remember it."